

# The Nasturtium

THE MASSACHUSETTS HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY



## Plant Mobile On The Move

Doing something for someone else is what the Plant Mobile is all about. A lot of people and organizations are making a free horticulture program available to the city this summer. Those listed below have already given of their time, talents and supplies and we would like to extend to them our greatest appreciation. Since the program is just starting, we expect the list to grow.

Allen C. Haskell Nursery  
Arrowhead Gardens  
Bettina Boudrot  
Dede Bundy  
Maureen Costello  
Alice Courage  
Evelyn Cronin  
Sonja Cuneo  
DeVincent Farms  
Susan Dumaine  
Corliss Engle  
Sylvia Fee  
Peggy Fielder  
F. I. Carter & Sons, Inc.  
Garden Club Federation  
Gillette & Co. — Plant Care Division  
Mrs. Lester R. Godwin  
Griffin Greenhouse Supplies  
Harry Quint Greenhouses  
Robert Hesse  
Alexander Heimlich Nursery &  
Garden Centers  
Sandra Hudson  
The Hunnewell Family  
John D. Lyons, Inc.  
Lenny Karlin  
Kartuz Greenhouses  
Lexington Gardens  
Stanton Lyman  
Beth Mock



*Sonja Cuneo and Lenny Karlin demonstrate some Plant Mobile exhibits to Roger Cheever and Betty Cook, director of the Mayor's Office of Cultural Affairs.*

Mahoney's Rocky Ledge Farm &  
Nursery  
Ra-Pid-Gro  
Lee Raymond  
Fred Ritzau  
Mrs. Howard Ruban  
Amy Sanzl  
Jean Stone  
Thomson Nursery & Garden Center  
Marguerite Tod  
Wellesley College Greenhouses  
Wellesley Hills Garden Club  
Michael Werman  
Weston Nurseries, Inc.  
Dorothy Whittier  
Natalie Wolf

We are very happy with the support we have already received but we will continue to need more. Perhaps, for instance, you are qualified to become one of our plant clinicians. You will be part of a team so you need not feel you must be accomplished in all phases of horticulture. We also still need plant material, so don't throw away that straggly, overgrown coleus—it is an

excellent demonstration plant. We can use any seeds that didn't get planted this year and would otherwise get lost in storage.

Here's to a summer of greenery and good times!

## The Begonias Are Still Coming

Now is the time to reserve a space in your fall schedule for attending the big Eastern Regional Begonia Convention and Show which will be held at Horticultural Hall September 25, 26 and 27. A fascinating variety of begonias will be on display and interesting and informative lectures will be presented daily. The lectures will be open to the public at a cost of 50¢ per lecture. For a show schedule and registration information write to Mrs. C. Norman Collard, Box 46, Wayland, Mass. 01778.





A crowd gathers to watch "The Plant Doctor and Jack's Beanstalk," a puppet play created by Sandra Hudson to explain good growing procedures. It will be a part of the program offered by the Plant Mobile to the city this summer.

## Horticultural Hall on the National Register

Horticultural Hall has now been officially recognized as one of the nation's historical landmarks. Having been nominated by the State Historic Preservation Officer, Horticultural Hall, along with Symphony Hall, will now be listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The National Register is the official list of the country's cultural resources worthy of preservation. It includes buildings and sites which are significant in American history, architecture, archeology and culture. Since 1935, the year the Historic Sites Act was passed, the federal government—specifically the Secretary of the Interior—has assumed extensive responsibility for the preservation of the nation's cultural property. The National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 expanded this program, creating the National Register of Historic Places. The concern of the government was made still more clear on May 13, 1971 when an Executive Order was signed which stated that "The Federal Government shall provide leadership in preserving, restoring, and maintaining the historic and cultural environment of the Nation."

Properties listed in the National Register are eligible for matching

grants of up to 50% of the cost of their acquisition and development. These grants are available through the Massachusetts Historical Commission and are funded by the National Park Service.

Horticultural Hall, designed to harmonize with the neighboring Symphony Hall, was dedicated on November 9, 1901, with a chrysanthemum exhibition. The listing in the National Register is indicative not only of the value of building, but also of the historical significance and continuing importance of the Society.

*The Plant Mobile will appear at Plant Clinics every Thursday evening beginning July 3 from 5 to 8 on the Falmouth St. side of Horticultural Hall. In case of rain they will be held in the main hall. You can also take this opportunity to visit Design 200 which will be open on Thursday nights until 8:00. Admission is \$1.00.*

## Hall's Pond Project

A wonderful opportunity awaits any members of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society who have been longing for a chance to get their hands dirty. Hall's Pond, the only open water area in North Brookline, has recently been acquired by the Town through the efforts of its Conservation Commission. The Commission plans to maintain the area as a sanctuary in a predominantly natural condition and would welcome any interested citizens who wish to assist with this maintenance. A group called the "Friends of Hall's Pond" has been formed for this purpose.

Covering approximately 3½ acres (including surrounding shores and uplands), Hall's Pond has long provided an aesthetically pleasing backdrop to the Town's Amory Playground which adjoins the pond to the west. Several species of wildlife frequent the Pond, which is fed by two inlets and by ground water. The present physical surroundings of the Pond vary considerably, from formal gardens to areas of wild trees, vines and dense undergrowth. The formal garden won an MHS Special Certificate in 1967.

Despite a total acquisition cost of \$77,500 and an improvement budget of approximately \$20,000, the cost to the Town of the whole Hall's Pond area will be under \$30,000 through 50% federal reimbursement and 25% state reimbursement. No specific plans or budget allocations have been made to maintain the formal garden area, but the Commission feels that if sufficient volunteer interest is shown they will support any reasonable scheme to continue these gardens. These and other questions were discussed at the initial meeting of "Friends of Hall's Pond" on June 12.

On June 15th at 4:00 p.m. there was a special Dedication ceremony at the Pond, which will be open to the public from dawn to dusk seven days a week. Anyone wishing more information on the "Friends of Hall's Pond" or on the Pond itself should call the Conservation Commission at Brookline Town Hall at 232-9000, ext. 276.



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The year 1974 was a good one for your Society. From a financial point of view we showed an excess of revenue over expenses of \$117,000 compared to \$63,000 in 1973. However, there were several peculiar circumstances which contributed last year only to this happy condition. Our budget for 1975 does not forecast nearly the same result. The Treasurer's report will amplify these comments. HORTICULTURE Magazine has shown a great deal of improvement and all who have worked on it deserve credit. Mr. Ewell, Mrs. Hencken and Mr. Good particularly deserve credit for their work on the Publications Committee.

There have been four areas of concern which we have worked on in the past year: our endowment, this building, our by-laws and searching for a new Executive Director. The endowment a year ago was almost entirely in common stocks which were rapidly declining so in mid-summer we converted most of these to treasury bills and short term notes. This was a very conservative approach which we thought appropriate. We are now starting to reinvest in the stock market.

This building which is structurally sound has had little or no maintenance work done for some years. We started by painting the classroom. We had repairs made to the roof which stopped most of the leaks. We are now starting on a renovation to the front entrance which was so very bleak and dreary. We hope to make the appearance more inviting. In the long run, there are major improvements which need to be made, and they will require major funding.

You have just voted, I hope, for new by-laws. The old ones were very restrictive and written for other times. For example, there was a requirement that a prospective new member must be sponsored in writing by a present member, and his name posted for a period of two weeks to give others an opportunity to object. This is the requirement of a private club, not a public-oriented non-profit organization. It is also a requirement which has not been observed for some years. We will accept any new member, anytime and anywhere. In preparing the new by-laws, we have studied those of other non-profit organizations in the city, as well as other horticultural societies around the country. Mrs. Storey particularly has worked hard on their preparation.

The most important activity of the past year was the selection of a new Executive Director. Roger Cheever started last fall and has been working extremely diligently ever since. After initially getting acquainted with the people, the services and the problems of the Society, he went to work on the budgets for this year. When that was done, the Spring Show was on top of him. Since then he has been preparing his program for the future, both short term and long. His program concerns not only this Society but his personal life as well. In the midst of his other planning he has been most fortunate in becoming engaged to Miss Jane Howard.

It is with great regret that I have to report the deaths of several people who were very much involved with this Society: Miss Helen Moseley, Trustee from 1958 through 1964; Harold D. Stevenson, Trustee from 1953 through 1967 and an Honorary Trustee until his death; and Arno H. Nehrling, Executive Director from 1947 through 1963. They all contributed a great deal.

I would like to personally thank all of the Trustees, all of the Staff, and those many volunteers who have made this a successful and satisfying year.

Willard P. Hunnewell  
President

## TREASURER'S REPORT

The year 1974 was a successful year financially. In addition to the \$117,649 excess of revenue over expenses, we have been able to substantially reduce our current outstanding debt. The auditor's report shows \$25,000 at the end of 1974 compared to \$175,000 at the end of 1973.

The factors which led to this happy result are several, but stem principally from a recognition on the part of the Trustees and Treasurer, that the Society should be cautious in its financial activity during the year. This is evidenced by the fact that expenses were reduced by not filling several open staff positions during the year. The repayment of loans reduced interest expenditures substantially and, finally, the endowment was converted to high yielding cash investments during the year.

Program activities played a major part in our continuing success, particularly noteworthy were the success of

the Spring Show and the continuing contribution from HORTICULTURE Magazine. Finally, the generosity of our membership should be noted, both in terms of more members, fund raising and gifts and bequests which were a great deal more than in 1973.

In closing I would add that the Board has approved a budget for 1975 which anticipates a modest favorable balance at year end. So from a dollars and cents viewpoint we are optimistic for the coming year.

Edward N. Dane  
Secretary

## HORTICULTURE REPORT

For years the magazine HORTICULTURE has been referred to as the albatross around the neck of the Society and many Trustees have agitated toward our selling out. It is true that four or five years ago the magazine was at best a marginal operation and before that was responsible for major yearly deficits.

The publishing business is tricky—more of an art than a science, and we have seen some of the largest magazines fall by the wayside. However, in this particular period of time, specialty magazines are doing well, and we are in the forefront with articles that are having broader and broader appeal.

A year ago last February, Bob Finkins came aboard as our first in-house publisher for a long time and his efforts are beginning to bear fruit. In our opinion, the magazine has improved in lay-out and content and the renewal rate is moving upward (from 39% in 1973 to 46% in 1974).

The year 1974 showed an increase in subscription income, advertising dollars were ahead of 1973 and the auditor's reports indicate that HORTICULTURE produced a net contribution to income of \$94,988.

The first quarter of 1975 is even more dramatic—in 1973 the Magazine showed a loss of \$6,500; this year preliminary figures show a profit of \$50,500. I believe we are on the right track at the right time, and I would like to compliment Bob Finkins and all his staff for their good work and also thank Mrs. Hugh Hencken and Fred Good for their help on the Publications Committee.

John W. Ewell, Chairman  
Publications Committee



## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The total membership in the Society on December 31, 1974 was 6,226 as compared with 5,719 at the end of 1973. During the year 1,188 new members were added, an increase of 207 over 1973. Of these 374 were added as the result of a mail promotion, with a renewal rate of 67%, and 130 from the 1973 Spring Show, with a renewal rate of 59%.

Membership income increased from \$87,759 in 1973 to \$96,859 in 1974.

Mrs. Samuel H. Wolcott, Jr.

Chairman, Membership Committee

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Having been appointed in mid-October of 1974 as the Executive Director, I will be reporting on events which were organized and presented for the most part by members of the staff other than myself. Consequently, this report will be divided into two sections with the first portion concentrating on those programs which took place during this past year. I will then comment on my thoughts as to the future direction of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and how our programs will respond to these objectives during the forthcoming year.

Under the helm of Mrs. Frances Dowd, the library has initiated a series of successful programs and teas to tie in with its monthly rare book exhibit. The goal was to stimulate interest and participation in the library and to make members realize that the library was a valuable resource for horticultural information. The programs ranged from a tea given for the contributors to the Marion Bell Crowell Fund through which *Captain Cook's Florilegium* was purchased, to an exhibit of bromeliad prints and plants highlighted by a lecture given by Dr. Robert Raffauf of Northeastern University on the subject of *Plant Hunters in the Amazon*. This popular series of exhibits and lectures has been carried forward into 1975 with a presentation having been given in January by Mrs. Mabel Herweg on the history of Ikebana which over 100 people attended.

Also initiated to stimulate member activity was a plant-of-the-month program and the new member's evenings which have helped to make our newer members feel more welcome at the Hall.

The Library reflected an increase in circulation with 5,623 books being borrowed by members in 28 states, Canada, England, and New Zealand. Eight hundred and fourteen new books were added to the Library, with 214 of these being gifts from outside sources.

Of particular interest was the increased number of horticultural questions that our library was being asked to respond to by both our membership and the general public. Between our visitors, letters, and telephone calls to our "hot line", we were answering in the range of 100 questions a day which attests to the increased interest in plant materials and the real need for our providing an information service to our membership.

The rare book restoration project has been going forward with 80 books being restored by the Harcourt Bindery of Boston. In support of this effort we were fortunate in receiving a \$700 grant from the Council of Arts and Humanities which we matched.

Our Hub Box Program through which volunteers are trained to teach a series of classes on horticulture in the elementary schools took a bit of a stumble with the loss of Nancy Phelan as its volunteer chairman. This was due to a transfer of her husband to another part of the country. In her absence, the Hub Box Committee carried on the program with 43 new volunteers being trained for placement in the Boston School System. In addition to this number many certified teachers attended the training classes and carried the program back to their respective schools. During the year approximately 600 students became involved with horticulture through the efforts of these volunteers.

The 1974 Spring Flower and Garden Show drew more than 93,000 visitors from all over New England. Final figures for the 1975 show are not yet available, but it is already evident that we topped last year's attendance and brought in substantial revenue for the support of other program activities. During the show 63 vocational agricultural students participated in our traditional all day plant identification and judging contest. We also presented the Rose Show and Camellia Show in addition to the Christmas Fair which reflected a 25% increase at the gate.

In January 1974, the Horticultural Society was a participant in an all-day televised Women's Fair produced jointly by WBZ-TV and the Governor's

Commission on the Status of Women. Through this exhibit thousands of women were introduced to the programs of the Horticultural Society. In addition, we succeeded in getting strong TV and radio coverage this year with Bill Thompson alone being on the air eleven times. Backing him up were many volunteers who also gave the Horticultural Society excellent public exposure through the media.

On numerous occasions the staff represented the Society in the capacity of lecturer, judge or friendly advisor to numerous horticultural organizations throughout the region. As a support service to the Cleveland Garden Center the staff helped coordinate a tour of North Shore gardens for a group of their members that came to visit us from Ohio.

The Taylor Greenhouse continues to be our most important teaching resource where students can work with live plant materials in a proper workshop environment. Through the hard work of the committee in charge, the ancient greenhouse which adjoins the Taylor Greenhouse has been fully restored and is now operational. Through the generosity of several people and the success of the biannual plant sale, the Greenhouse is now virtually self supporting and a major asset to the Society.

An extraordinarily successful addition to our program during the year has been the offering of plant clinics to the general public. During the summer months 13 clinics were offered in the early evening hours at Horticultural Hall where advice was given on how to repot plants, make cuttings, and control pest infestation. On several occasions the line extended around the corner with people even bringing their houseplants in shopping carts. The interest in this program again reflects the increased need for basic horticultural information by all segments of the population. In partial response we have presented nine more plant clinics in various locations throughout the city as well as in the suburbs. Through this program several thousand people have received personal horticultural advice from our volunteer plant clinicians. As a logical follow-up we will soon be operating a plantmobile which will make presentations throughout the suburban area and hopefully in time on a statewide basis.

Without question our most successful advance in program has come in the area of classes and workshops.



During the calendar year of 1974 a total of 981 students attended the 57 day and evening courses that were offered. When this figure is compared with the 425 individuals that attended 18 courses in 1973, one can begin to appreciate the work that has been done by our coordinator Pegze von Moschizisker and the Educational Programs Committee. Classes were offered not only in Horticultural Hall but also at the Taylor Greenhouse, Wellesley College Greenhouse, Arnold Arboretum and numerous private homes throughout the suburban area. In addition, seven tours were conducted to private estates and public gardens.

In reflection, the year of 1974 must be considered an active and in many ways successful year for the Society. But there is so much more that we can and must do to have our institution publicly recognized as an invaluable horticultural information resource. Never before has there been a time when people have had a greater interest in plant materials nor a more profound need for information on how to care for them. As our primary objective is education, we must reassess the programs which we presently offer and explore new alternatives to more effectively respond to these needs. To be specific, our classes and workshops have improved immeasurably in the past year, but we must now restructure the program. We should organize the classes in a manner that would allow a student the option of taking a series of courses geared to his level of experience and interest. Upon successful completion he should be recognized for his achievement and encouraged to take a more advanced offering of courses. We should also be interfacing our course program with other institutions that have a related curriculum of classes.

We must remember, however, that education can be communicated through a variety of mediums in addition to the formal classroom. One way would be for the Society to become a clearinghouse of horticultural information for its members. Through our newsletter we should keep our membership informed as to the programs and activities of interest that are being presented by other horticultural and environmental organizations in the Massachusetts area. Our library should become a more active resource center through which information is imparted not only by means of our books but also through lectures and

displays.

We are planning to present more shows and exhibitions in the forthcoming year with the emphasis being on quality and relevance as opposed to size. One of the ways we can ensure success in this area is by actively encouraging the specialized plant societies to use our facilities for exhibitions and coordinating our library displays and other programs with these events. We will also work jointly with other cultural institutions to offer programs which will be of mutual interest to our respective memberships.

In the past few months we have made good progress in updating the editorial content of HORTICULTURE Magazine. We are now working to present a publication which offers sound practical horticultural information that is relevant to today's needs and has educational value as well as visual attractiveness.

Needless to say, all of the aforementioned programs will be only as successful as our facilities allow them to be. For the foreseeable future it has been agreed that Horticultural Hall will serve as an excellent home base for the Society. Not only is it centrally located, but also immediately accessible by public transportation and situated in an area which has been appreciably upgraded in the past few years. The building has been shown to be structurally sound and offers great potential for remodeling from within. Consequently, we have committed ourselves to redoing the front hall to give our building a proper sense of entrance. Construction will begin in the next few days.

In the future we hope to establish a seed and plant store as well as entertaining a more ambitious plan of a possible greenhouse teaching facility under lights and a proper resource center.

From our home base in the city we intend to reach out to the suburban areas with programs that can be presented in numerous locations. An example of this concept will be our plant mobile which will be operational this summer. Its mobility permits us to offer our plant clinics in a broad geographic area with specific programs oriented to children and horticultural therapy for senior citizens.

In summary, I have briefly outlined a number of programs which we are in the process of implementing. Underlying all of them, however, is the commitment to the objective of making the

Society an informational resource for all horticultural enthusiasts. We are actively studying the programmatic issues related to this concept and are beginning to work as a team for this common cause. Above all else, however, we must remember that we are providing a service to people and that we must therefore be professionally responsible to their needs and always seek to help them to better understand the interrelationship of plants to man and his environment.

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George Putnam  
Mrs. Charles G. Rice  
Robert G. Stone  
Mrs. G. Kennard Wakefield

#### **1974 GARDEN AWARDS**

##### *Special Awards of Merit:*

Adams National Historic Sites,  
Quincy  
Dr. and Mrs. John Merrill, Westwood  
North Easton Savings Bank, North  
Easton

##### *Wakefield Award for the Small Garden:*

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Walcott,  
Brookline

##### *Bronze Medals:*

Mr. and Mrs. Josiah Child, Boston  
Norwood Automobile Co., Norwood

##### *Silver Medal:*

Mrs. Langford Warren, Cohasset

##### *Gold Medal:*

Mrs. Irving Fraim, Waltham

#### **1974 EXHIBITION AWARDS**

##### *The John S. Ames Trophy:*

Weston Nurseries, Hopkinton

##### *The Albert C. Burrage Gold Vase:*

Alexander I. Heimlich, Woburn

#### **1974 MEDAL AWARDS**

##### *Silver Medal:*

Mrs. Pendleton Miller, Seattle, WA  
Mr. and Mrs. H. Lincoln Foster, Falls  
Village, CT

##### *Large Gold Medal:*

Mr. and Mrs. Donald P. Smith, Morris  
Plains, NJ  
Mr. Hugh Steavenson, Elsberry, MO

##### *Jackson Dawson Medal:*

Dr. Gustav A. L. Mehlquist, Storrs, CT

##### *Thomas Roland Medal:*

Mr. Cornelius Hoogendoorn, Newport,  
RI



# New Books in the Library

The library is delighted to be given more space this month. We have, therefore, included some slightly older books and some technical and miscellaneous titles.

May we also remind you that we are happy to mail books to members. Just let us know by telephone or letter which books or what subjects interest you.

*All You Can Build in the Garden.*

Allaby, Michael. *Robots behind the Plow; Modern Farming and the Need for an Organic Alternative.*

Barkley, Fred A. *The Species of the Begoniaceae.* A bibliography. Does not circulate.

Bates, H. E. *A Fountain of Flowers.* Essays about English gardening.

Baylis, Maggie. *House Plants for the Purple Thumb.*

*The Beautiful Gardens of Britain.* A guide book with many colorful illustrations.

Better Homes & Gardens. *Better Homes & Gardens Gifts to Make Yourself.*

Bigelow, Howard E. *The Mushroom Pocket Field Guide.*

Bollmann, Willi E. *Kamuti—a New Way in Bonsai.*

Buchman, Dian D. *The Complete Herbal Guide to Natural Health and Beauty.*

Busch, Phyllis S. *The Urban Environment, a Teacher's Guide.* Includes plants in the city.

Carter, Walter. *Insects in Relation to Plant Disease.*

Castellano, Carmine C. *You Fix It: Lawn Mowers.*

Clark, Lewis J. *Wild Flowers of British Columbia.*

Conroy, Norma M. *Making Shell Flowers.*

Cox, Janet. *Plantcraft: a Growing Compendium of Sound Indoor Gardening with Sound.*

Crandall, Chuck. *Success with Houseplants: a Down-to-Earth Guide to Indoor Foliage Plants.*

Eaton, Richard. *Flora of Concord.*

Fisher, Ronald M. *The Appalachian Trail.*

Fogg, H. G. Witham. *Cut Flowers and Foliage Plants.* English.

Freitus, Jow. *160 Edible Plants Commonly Found in the Eastern United States.*

Fryer, Leland N. *Ecological Gardening for Home Foods.*

*Gardening Shortcuts: How to Really Enjoy Gardening.*

Gauch, Hugh G. *Inorganic Plant Nutrition.*

*Handbook of Urban Landscape.* Ed. by Cliff Tandy.

Hannau, Hans. *Fairchild Tropical Garden.*

Hanson, L. *Plant Growth Regulators.*

Harris, Stuart. *Flora of Essex County, Massachusetts.*

Hellyer, A. G. L. *Picture Dictionary of Popular Flowering Plants.*

Heritage, Bill. *The Lotus Book of Water Gardening.*

Hunt, Peter. *The Book of Garden Ornament.*

Johns, Leslie. *Plants in Tubs, Pots, Boxes and Baskets.* English.

Klein, Leopold. *Tomatoes—the Multi-Plant Method.*

Korab, Balthazar. *Gamberaia.* Photo essay of an historic Italian garden.

Kramer, Jack. *Gardening without Stress and Strain.*

Leonard, Jonathan N. *Atlantic Beaches.*

Line, Les. *This Good Earth.* Nature study.

Logsdon, Gene. *Successful Berry Growing.*

MacDougall, Elizabeth B. *The French Formal Garden.*

Millard, Nancy. *Pictures from Bark.*

Miller, Lawrence P. *Phytochemistry.*

Mitchell, Peter. *Great Flower Painters; Four Centuries of Floral Art.* Biographies and pictures of flower arrangements. Does not circulate.

Morrison, Winifrede. *Drying and Preserving Flowers.*

Olkowski, Helga. *The City People's Book of Raising Food. The Organic Way to Plant Protection.*

Perry, Mac. *Landscape Your Florida Home.*

Peters, Paulhans. *Garden Pools for Pleasure.*

Prieto-Moreno, Francisco. *Los Jardines de Granada.* Does not circulate by mail.

Riemer, Jan. *The Beginner's Kitchen Garden.*

Riotte, Louise. *Nuts for the Food Gardener; Growing Quick, Nutritious Crops Anywhere.*

Robbins, Sarah F. *The Sea is All about Us.*

Robertson, Seonaid M. *Dyes from Plants.*

Rosengarten, Frederic. *The Book of Spices.* Spice and herb information and cookery.

Schery, Robert W. *Plants for Man.*

Schroeder, Marion. *The Green Thumb-book.* Gardening directory. Does not circulate.

Scotland. Countryside Commission for Scotland. *Scotland's Countryside, the official guide.*

Scott-James, Anne. *Sissinghurst: the Making of a Garden.*

Shoemaker, James. *Small Fruit Culture.* 1975 edition.

Simon, Hilda. *The Private Lives of Orchids.*

Stephens, Rockwell R. *One Man's Forest; Pleasure and Profit from Your Own Woods.*

*Stocking Up: How to Preserve the Foods You Grow, Naturally.*

Stoddard, Alexandra. *Style for Living; How to Make Where You Live You.*

Street, John. *Plants for Performance.* English.

Subik, Rudolf. *Decorative Cacti; a Guide to Succulent House Plants.* English.

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## New Book by Member

*Trees in Amherst*, recently published by the Garden Club of Amherst, is not only a pictorial and descriptive record of native, cultivated and historically interesting trees in Amherst but also of trees hardy in Massachusetts. Each tree is listed by botanical and common names. The brief, simple descriptions provide aids in identification and feature the most distinguishing characteristics of each tree. Under each description there is a list of locations where the trees can be easily seen from a public way or on public grounds. Most of the trees mentioned are located in the vicinity of the Amherst College Campus and on the grounds of the University of Massachusetts. Asterisks indicate trees of special historic interest.

The format of the book is attractive and the black and white cover features the silhouette of the White Pines on the Amherst College Campus. The book is printed on fine quality paper and the close-up photography is excellent.

The book explains how the natural beauty of the town of Amherst was enhanced by the planning and interest of many civic-minded citizens over the years. In 1857, the Amherst Ornamental Tree Association led by William Austin Dickinson, brother of Emily Dickinson, set forth specific plans for the layout and planting of the Village Common, the improvement of walks by lining them with appropriate trees and the development of the grounds of Amherst College. He was aided in this endeavor by consultations with Frederick Law Olmsted and his son, the

eminent landscape architects. President William S. Clark, third president of the University of Massachusetts, was most responsible for stimulating an interest in ornamental trees in the town of Amherst. In 1876, President Clark was invited by the Japanese government to help establish an agricultural college in Sapporo on the island of Hokkaido. He was joined a few years later by Professor William Penn Brooks of the University of Massachusetts faculty. During this period they sent back to Amherst many seedlings of beautiful flowering trees which were later planted on the University of Massachusetts campus.

The black and white photographs of each tree aid in their identification as they feature pictures of the bark, the leaves, the buds, flowers and fruits of each specimen. The photography was done by Lois Theodora Grady of the Tree Book Committee of the Garden Club of Amherst. Mary M. Maki was chairman of this Committee and wrote the introduction. There are Walking tour maps showing the location of each tree and a chart of wooded areas in Amherst showing the frequency of the different varieties of trees growing in conservation areas nearby.

This attractive tree identification book should be of interest not only to Amherst citizens but to all residents of Massachusetts as the trees mentioned are hardy throughout the entire state.

## Plant of the Month

The Plant of the Month for July is a Sea Onion, *Bowiea volubilis*, donated by Sandra Podolsky of the Plant Gallery in Newton.

This curious succulent plant has

climbing fern-like foliage which grows from a pale green onion-like bulb.

The Sea Onion requires bright sunlight and should not be overwatered.

The winner of the May Plant of the Month, the Boston Fern which was given by Seltzers Garden City, Inc. of Chestnut Hill, Newton, was Mrs. Gordon Long of Weymouth.

Stop by the Horticultural Hall library soon and fill out a registration which will make you eligible to win the Plant of the Month. Winners are notified by phone and can pick up the plant at their convenience.

## Membership Renewal Reminder

Since many memberships are up for renewal at this time of year, it seems an appropriate time to call to your attention a couple of things that might help to avoid confusion.

First, since our billing process is now handled by our fulfillment house, duplicate notices are occasionally sent to members who have already paid their renewals. If you receive an additional notice after you have sent your check, please accept our apologies. Receipt of your new membership card is proof that your membership has been renewed and we ask you to ignore any duplicate renewal notices you may receive after that.

Also, the renewal notice is in two parts, with a perforated line down the middle. We need both of them for our records, so please be sure to mail the entire form back to us.

We look forward to having you with us again during the coming year.